

U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/083,605
§1.111 Amendment dated July 17, 2003
Response to Office Action dated April 17, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 3 are pending in the present application, of which claim 2 has been canceled and claims 1 and 3 have been amended. No new matter has been added. It is therefore believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated April 17, 2003 for the reasons set forth below.

As to the Merits

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejection:

claims 1 - 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Fujita et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,243,947).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Each of independent claims 1 and 3 have been amended to include the features of canceled claim 2. More specifically, each of claims 1 and 3 now call for the primary expanding means to have a pair of openable-and-closable expanding teeth, a pair of sliding members fixing the respective expanding teeth, and a driving means to open and close the pair of sliding members in opposite wire longitudinal directions.

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For example, as discussed on pages 9 and 10 of the present specification with reference to Figures 4 - 6, the expanding teeth 134 repeatedly press the braid 22 of the shielded wire 15 in the wire's longitudinal direction by virtue of the cylinder 148 as the driving means engages a horizontal guide rail 155.

However, Fujita fails to disclose these features, as now called for in each of claims 1 and 3. That is, the pressing unit 7 of Fujita merely presses the exposed woven sheath S3 in a wire's lateral direction.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

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Claims 1 and 3 have been amended to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A braid folding unit of a shielded wire, comprising:

a primary expanding means to beat a braid exposed on an inner cover of the shielded wire so as to outwardly expand the braid;

an expanding pipe to enter an inside of the braid along the inner cover so as to further outwardly expand the braid; and

a braid folding member to advance along an outside surface of the expanding pipe so as to push the braid in an axial direction of the shielded wire and to fold back the braid, wherein

the primary expanding means has a pair of openable-and-closable expanding teeth, a pair of sliding members fixing the respective expanding teeth, and a driving means to open and close the pair of sliding members in opposite wire longitudinal directions.

3. (Amended) A braid folding method of a shielded wire, comprising the steps of:

beating a braid exposed on an inner cover of the shielded wire by a primary expanding means so as to outwardly expand the braid;

entering an expanding pipe into an inside of the braid along the inner cover so as to further outwardly expand the braid by an end sloping portion of the expanding pipe; and

advancing a braid folding member along an outside surface of the expanding pipe so as to push the braid in an axial direction of the shielded wire and to fold back the braid, wherein

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the primary expanding means has a pair of openable-and-closable expanding teeth, a pair of sliding members fixing the respective expanding teeth, and a driving means to open and close the pair of sliding members in opposite wire longitudinal directions.